

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----202204Z 114860 /73
R 201354Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9678

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 01044

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EEC, UK
SUBJECT: FCO VISITORS TO WASHINGTON

REF: (A) LONDON 583; (B) LONDON 565

1. AS THE DEPARTMENT KNOWS, SEVERAL FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS WILL BE VISITING WASHINGTON IN THE NEAR FUTURE, BOTH IN CONNECTION WITH BILATERAL US/UK DISCUSSIONS AND IN THE CONTEXT OF THE BRITISH EC PRESIDENCY. MICHAEL WEIR WANTS TO TRADE IDEAS ON THE MIDDLE EAST WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION (REFTEL A) AND MARTIN REITH WILL BE COMING TO TALK ABOUT SOUTHERN AFRICA (REFTEL B). ALSO, WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE FOREIGN OFFICE THAT DEPUTY UNDER-SECRETARY REG HIBBERT WILL VISIT WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 17-18.

2. WE TRUST THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHARES OUR VIEW THAT DURING THE BRITISH PRESIDENCY IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO KEEP EMBASSY LONDON FULLY INFORMED OF US/UK EXCHANGES WHICH TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON. IT HAS BEEN OUR EXPERIENCE THAT FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS WRITE EVERYTHING DOWN. THUS, THOSE WITH WHOM WE DEAL EVERY DAY IN THE FCO WILL KNOW THE CONTENT OF THE WEIR/REITH/HIBBERT TALKS IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL. IN ORDER TO AVOID PUTTING
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OUR FOOT IN A BUCKET HERE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING PRIVY TO THE SAME INFORMATION ON THESE DISCUSSIONS AS OUR BRITISH COLLEAGUES.

ARMSTRONG

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NNN

Message Attributes

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